

VOL 3 - ISSUE 9 THE ATARI FEDERATION
14 September 1987

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CHESTER HADLEY - 733-4177

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BOB RIBORTONE - 734-3988

8-BIT LIBRARIAN:

DENNIS POTTS - 736-5091

ST LIBRARIAN

PHIL ROMINGER - 734-2296

EDITOR:

RALPH BOCKOCK - 734-2044

MEETINGS:

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the VAFB Federal Credit Union, Vandenberg Village, California.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership in The Atari Federation is open to all persons interested in the Atari personal computer. Dues are \$10.00 per calendar year (\$15.00 per family) and are collected on the member's anniversary date. Membership includes a subscription to this newsletter and access to The Federation's library of public domain software.

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!           ATARI FEDERATION
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!           SEPT. MEETING DATE
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!           14th Sept @ 7:00PM
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!           MARK YOUR CALENDAR
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Please send all correspondence to:



THE ATARI FEDERATION

P.O. Box 5367

Vandenberg AFB, Ca 93437

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by: Shirl A. Dellinger

Here we are - just a few weeks from the ACENET - All Atari Computer Fair. To remind you the fair is on September 19th & 20th at the Glendale Civic Center. Times for the fair are: Saturday 10:00am to 6:00pm and Sunday 10:00am to 5:00pm. Maps will be furnished at this month's meeting so all will know how and where to go for this event. We also have some discount tickets for the fair which will be available at the meeting. These tickets get you in for one (1) day. Cost of these tickets are \$3.00 each but if you wait to purchase them at the door you will pay \$5.00 each. Quite a savings!! If you have any questions on the fair or working the fair - please call Bob Ribortone, Chester Hadley or myself and we will try to answer your questions.

Let me welcome our newest officer to the ranks - Dennis Botts!!! Dennis is taking over as 8-bit Librarian for the rest of the year. Please help me in welcoming Dennis and be sure to stop by on the break and take a look at the library.

As stated in past newsletters and at meetings, we will be taking nominations for officers at the September meeting. If your thinking about running for an office or if you have someone you would like to nominate for an office you will want and need to be at this meeting. We will have for all members to look at, a print out of the break down of just what each office is and what is needed of its officer. There are only a few points you should take into consideration:

- 1/ The office of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer must be held by someone of at least 21 years of age. This is due to the signing of legally binding documents.
- 2/ The office of Newsletter Editor and Librarian both 8-bit & ST are Volunteer positions in the case of 2 or more people volunteering for the same position, the general membership will vote on who will hold that office.

Elections of all officers will take place at the October meeting with those officers working with the out-going officers until December 15th and taking over fully in time for the January newsletter and meeting. Other than the above restrictions any and all currently active members, (membership paid in full) may run for any office.

Since elections will be in October we have decided to try something new and different. New and different to our club that is! Since time will be used for the elections, rather than do a set demo we are going to try a social hour. That being both 8-bit and 16-bit systems will be there for the

purpose of copying the library disks. These systems may also be used to show off software that you enjoy to the other members. So if you have been telling someone about a new or old favorite game, graphics program or whatever, bring it to the meeting and let them get a look at it first hand. This time will also give you a chance to talk to other members, meet your new officers, ask questions of other members, or just to get to know each other a little better. This could and should be a really good time, if supported by all. Let us know what you think of this idea and this meeting, cause if you didn't like it we wouldn't want to do it again!!!

SECRETARIES REPORT

by: Chester Hadley

The August 3rd general membership meeting was opened by Shirl Dellinger at 7:05:45pm with a report on the ACENET Fair. Pre sale tickets are available at \$3.00 each. Tickets at the door will be \$5.00. To obtain pre sale tickets contact either Chester Hadley or Shirl.

Rainbow for Girls Assembly #106 is selling buttons to raise funds for "Canine Companions". To assist in this project, Chester Hadley has designed and will make name buttons for you. The cost is \$1.50 each.

Other business included: Only one of the two disk of the month for Aug/Sep was available. Nomination for 1988 officers will be taken during the Sept meeting. The BX is selling out their supply of Atari software. Laser Print is now producing our newsletter. Correspondence was reviewed and additional sponsors are still needed. The Sept meeting will be on the 14th due to the Labor Day Holiday. Paul Alhart discussed the Challenge and provided another clue (?).

Shirl has been working to develop a flyer to be distributed at the ACENET Fair and local businesses. A vote was taken and all members present voted to have 2,000 flyers printed at a cost of \$68.00 or less.

Bruce Franke was ill and unable to present the final (temporary) portion of the Telecommunication SIG. However, Greg Kolby and John McCammon filled in for Bruce. Thank you Bruce for your time and effort in presenting this very informative SIG. Please keep your notes and reference material available because this SIG can and should be regular and recurring.

We had two interesting demonstrations. The first was by Paul Alhart on S.A.M. and a reader program he developed. The second was by Greg Kolby on the Track-Ball and on his function keys program.

After the break Don Christenson and Pam Duke won the member drawing. Don won the Disk of the Month and Pam won a Disk Holder donated by Computer Connection. Chester Hadley won the raffle and selected the colored paper.

8-BIT LIBRARY NEWS!

By: Shirl Dellinger

This article has to start out with an apology for the mess that occurred last month with the disk of the month. This month we have what we were to have last month, two disks of the month filled with over 400 Public Domain Print Shop Icons. These disks will be on sale at the September meeting for the low low price of \$1.00 each, and they come with the print out pages of all the icons. Some programs these icons may be used with are listed below. Note: some programs may need the icons converted before use in that program.

Gmix Pix	Print Shop
Typesetter	Page Designer
Print Shop	Print Shop Companion
Rubber Stamp	First Word Processor
Print Shop Label Program	

Sound good? It should as most of these icons are as good if not better quality than the icons that came on the Print Shop Icon Disks. So be sure to pick up your set and increase your graphics ability...

CPM/2-80 ST DISK OF THE MONTH

by: Phil Rominger

Most of the ST users have asked that this group of programs be incorporated into a disk of the month. Well, you asked for it and now you have it. I spent about 20 hours or so, testing these files and getting them into some kind of order (They had been grouped together from the original two disks into a single ARC file.

To the best of my knowledge all of the files work, and to be truthful this is one of the best emulators I have seen to date. It runs the CPM software at a good rate of speed and works with everything I have tried to date. I am going to give all of you a early warning "READ ALL THE DOCUMENTATION" and after you finish go back and read it again. There is of course a text file called CPM.DOC and there is another called READ.ME" (do so!!).

I found out that L&H Electronics has a fair selection of CPM software on their BBS, and I'm sure if you look around you could find a lot more. You have got to remember that this system was designed to work on the abacus, so it's been around for a while.

If you have problems getting this program up and running, just let me know and I'll give you a hand. I'm no expert, but I have made my share of mistakes and we can work any problem out.

P.R. CONNECTION

by: Shirl A. Dellinger

I'm sure if you read any of the computer magazines you've heard about the P.R. Connection interface by I.C.D.. This interface is made to emulate the old 850 interface, and it does just that. The problem that I ran into with this piece of hardware was strange. It worked fine with all of my software. (or at least I thought it did). see the one thing that I couldn't do was when I was in AtariWriter Plus I could never use the Proof Reader!!

This is what happened. I could run AtariWriter Plus fine and I could even load and run the Proof Reader. The problem came when I tried to get back from the Proof Reader to AtariWriter Plus. The entire system would lock tight! I could no longer get at my letter, or newsletter article, let alone save it to disk.

First I called Computer Logic in SLO, which is where I purchased the P.R. Connection, they were really nice & very helpful. First they replaced the interface, when that had no effect on my problem they gave me the phone number for I.C.D. and a name of someone to help me with my problem, they even went as far as offering to pay my long distance phone call.

I contacted I.C.D. and spoke with Tom, he said they had found there was a problem with the interface and AtariWriter Plus, and they had just came out with an updated version of the P.R. Connection. All I had to do was ship my interface back to them and they would send me this updated version - at no cost to me. So I shipped off my interface and in a very short 8 days my interface was back to me, but not the updated version they had said they were sending, this was my old interface with a jumper placed over the 2 RS232 ports, now making them inoperable. You only need those ports if you don't have a direct connect modem, or if you do have a serial port printer. They did include the information I needed to have someone put a switch in the interface to turn on and off

those ports. Why didn't they do that in the first place - I don't know. Why did they say they had an up-dated version of the interface, and then only fix or rig my interface - I don't know that either.

Something funny that happened, about 3 weeks after my interface was back and working fine I got a letter from Tom saying that the problem with the P.R. Connection and AtariWriter Plus was they were both loading the R:Handler and by going to the Proof Reader and back, they were loading one too many R:Handlers, and the system would lock. This letter also gave me Howard or Tom to call and they would tell me how to fix it myself - funny because they had already fixed it for me!!!

I am glad to say that my interface is up and working again and I am very happy with it. I just wish that companies would either do what they say or say what they do!! I don't want much from a company: good products, at good prices, with good service. I do feel I got all of that from I.C.D., but as stated they could have been honest with me. Plus they could have fixed the interface in its entirety, rather than doing half a job and letting me find someone to do the other half of there job.

I do know that this interface is everything I have ever needed or wanted from an interface - now that its fixed that is!

DUES DUE!?

by: M.A.C.E.

IF you haven't reNEwed your Atari Federation membership yet, STOP POKEing around. PEEK in your wallet or checkbook for \$10.00, and RESTORE our faith in you by mailing your dues into the P.O. Box address, or by paying at the NEXT General Meeting. Please NOTE the date in the upper right hand corner of the mailing label; it is your membership expiration date. SAVE time and possible ERROR by reNEwing now. IF you have ALREADY taken care of this POINT, THEN thanks a lot! BYE

(Reprinted from the M.A.C.E. Journal 01/87 & edited to fit our needs. SAD)

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of computers send them in to see us !

DEMO

by: Shirl Dellinger

This months demo will be on the ST system. Charlie Rominger will be showing us some of the better Public Domain programs that are in our library and we'll get a close look at a very good educational disk with numerous programs one of which is a word processor for the younger people in the family - "Kid Talk & Kid Shape". This is the program that Charlie showed us awhile back during a break and because of requests, she will now do a full demo. Charlie has told me that if time allows she will also show us "The Pond", a program with some of the best graphics!

The following people are to bring in software/hardware:

Complete ST System - Charlie Rominger

"Please don't forget these items!!"

BUG-FREE 800XL

by: Herb Kanner

(The Exterminator)

The revision "B" Basic resident in MOST 800XL computers has several bugs. (I wouldn't know one if I saw one), however I'm told they are there! A new revision "C" which is the same as used in the latest 800XL and all 130XE models is available FREE from Atari Corp.. This is a cartridge unit which plugs into your computer and overrides the existing basic.

To tell which basic your 800XL has, do the following:

1. Turn on the computer;
2. Type the following in direct mode (without a line number):

```
IF PEEK(43234)=96 THEN PRINT "YOU HAVE REVISION B."
```

Note: The number for revision "C" is 234.

If you want the latest version which is bug-free and free, send a note to Atari with the serial number of your computer and a copy of the bill of sale. Mention that your a member of the "ATARI FEDERATION USER GROUP". Send it to:

Atari Customer Relations
390 Caribbean Dr.
Sunnyvale, Ca 94088
Attn: Barbara Hamilton

A-T-A-R-I

Answers-Tips-and-Relevant Information

by Paul Alhart

For some time I have been thinking about writing a program that would make labels for audio cassette tapes. Somehow other things always seemed to be more urgent, so I was happy to find that someone else had found the time and done it for me. The someone is David Adkison, and the following is a reprint of his article from the M.A.C.E. Journal (August 1985).

If you use a cassette recorder with your computer or have a tape deck for your Hi-Fi system, you have probably at one time or another made a label for tapes you recorded. Most commercial tapes come with a label, but even some of these (particularly the new popular "books on tape") do not.

In the past I dreaded making these labels for my recordings or computer programs because of the time involved in sizing the label and neatly printing the titles on it. The result was often no label at all or one with only the artist's name on it, which I usually regretted latter when I wanted to know specifically what was there.

CASSETTE LABELER takes the drudgery out of making these labels because it makes them for you. All you have to do is type in the information you want printed on the label. While executing, the program prompts you for various information and prints a template that merely has to be clipped, folded, and placed in the plastic cassette box.

The program was written for the Star SG-10 printer, but can be easily modified for any other printer by changing the control codes in lines 40 (for condensed print) and 450-460 (for turning underlining on and off). I tried to keep the typist in mind when writing the program so there are no inverse keys or special characters (see note below for help on typing in the program).

It would be best to use heavier bond paper for your labels, but any will do. Each side has room for six titles (up to 64 characters in length). If you have more than six titles per side, the program will tell you how many to put on each line (use a slash, space, or whatever you want to separate titles on the same line.

I hope with CASSETTE LABELER you will have fewer "mystery tapes" and spend less time fast forwarding through a tape to find out what is on it.

Hints for typing in CASSETTE LABELER: Here are some hints for typing in some of the more difficult lines.

LINE 90 The long string of characters enclosed in quotations in this line consists of a vertical bar (created by holding down the "shift key" and then pressing the "equals key", followed by 68 hyphens, and then another vertical bar.

LINE 100 There are 37 "space bar" entries between the first quotation mark and the vertical bar.

LINE 220 There are 68 "space bar" entries between the vertical bars.

LINE 240 Follow instructions for Line 100.

LINE 340 Follow instructions for Line 220.

LINE 350 There are 68 "underlines" (shift/hyphen) between the vertical bars.

LINEs 410, 460, & 470 Follow instructions for Line 220.

LINE 480 Follow instructions for Line 90.

```

1 REM CASSETTE LABELER
2 REM byDANNY M. ADKISON
3 REM POLSD DEPT./OKLA. STATE UNIV.
4 REM STILLWATER, OK. 74078
10 DIM TITLE$(64),DOLBY1$(9),DOLBY2$(9),BIAS$(11),LEFT$(65),
EDGE$(58)
20 LEFT$=" ":LEFT$(65)=" ":LEFT$(2)=LEFT$
30 VERT1=0:VERT2=0:SIDE1=0:SIDE2=0:MIN=0:MAX=0:I=0:Q=0:TRAP
930
40 LPRINT CHR$(27);CHR$(15):REM CONTROL CODES FOR CONDENSED
PRINT ON STAR SG-10
50 GOSUB 800:REM INSTRUCTIONS
60 GOSUB 660:REM DOLBY AND BIAS
70 GOSUB 500:REM NUMBER OF TITLES
80 REM BEGIN PRINTING
90 LPRINT "!"-----
!
100 LPRINT "!" SIDE 1: ";DOLBY1$;" - ";BIAS$;"
!"
110 ? CHR$(125):? "NOTE: TITLE ENTRIES MAY BE UP TO
64 CHARACTERS LONG"
120 ? "(That comes to about 1 and 1/2 lines of text on the
screen.):"?
130 IF SIDE1=0 THEN 210
140 IF SIDE1>6 THEN GOSUB 550
150 FOR X=1 TO SIDE1:?"What is title ";X;" on SIDE 1"
160 INPUT TITLE$

```

```

170 LEFT=LEN(TITLE$)
180 LPRINT "!" ";TITLE$;LEFT$(LEFT);"!"
190 NEXT X
200 IF SIDE1=6 THEN 240
210 IF SIDE1<6 THEN VERT1=6-SIDE1
220 FOR X=1 TO VERT1:LPRINT "!"
!":NEXT X
230 ? :?
240 LPRINT "!" SIDE 2: ";DOLBY2$;" - ";BIAS$;"
!"
250 IF SIDE2=0 THEN 330
260 IF SIDE2>6 THEN GOSUB 590
270 FOR X=1 TO SIDE2:?"What is title ";X;" on SIDE 2"
280 INPUT TITLE$
290 LEFT=LEN(TITLE$)
300 LPRINT "!" ";TITLE$;LEFT$(LEFT);"!"
310 NEXT X
320 IF SIDE2=6 THEN 350
340 FOR X=1 TO VERT2:LPRINT "!"
!":NEXT X
350 LPRINT "!"-----
!
360 ? :?
370 ? "What is the title for SIDE 1"
380 INPUT EDGE$
390 LEFT=LEN(EDGE$)+8
400 LPRINT "!" SIDE 1: ";EDGE$;LEFT$(LEFT);"!"
410 LPRINT "!"
!"
420 ? "What is the title for SIDE 2"
430 INPUT EDGE$
440 LEFT=LEN(EDGE$)+8
450 LPRINT CHR$(27);CHR$(45);CHR$(1):?"! SIDE 2:
";EDGE$;LEFT$(LEFT);"!"
460 LPRINT CHR$(27);CHR$(45);CHR$(0):?"!
!"
470 FOR X=1 TO 4:LPRINT "!"
!":NEXT X
480 LPRINT "!"-----
!
490 GOTO 630
500 ? CHR$(125):? "How many titles on SIDE 1";
510 INPUT SIDE1
520 ? "How many titles on SIDE 2";
530 INPUT SIDE2
540 RETURN
550 MIN=INT(SIDE1/6):MAX=MIN*6:Q=SIDE1-MAX:I=MIN+1
560 IF Q=0 THEN ? "PUT ";MIN;" ON EACH LINE.":GOTO 580
570 ? "PUT ";I;" ON ";Q;" LINES AND ";MIN;" ON THE REST."
580 SIDE1=6:RETURN
590 MIN=INT(SIDE2/6):MAX=MIN*6:Q=SIDE2-MAX:I=MIN+1
600 IF Q=0 THEN ? "PUT ";MIN;" ON EACH LINE.":GOTO 620
610 ? "PUT ";I;" ON ";Q;" LINES AND ";MIN;" ON THE REST."
620 SIDE2=6:RETURN

```



```

630 ? CHR$(125):? "ANOTHER LABEL? 1=YES/2=NO"
      INPUT OTHER:IF OTHER=1 THEN 20
640 END
660 ? CHR$(125):? "WAS DOLBY ON FOR SIDE 1? 1=YES/2=NO":INPUT
DOLBY
670 IF DOLBY=1 THEN DOLBY1$="DOLBY ON "
680 IF DOLBY=2 THEN DOLBY1$="DOLBY OFF"
690 IF DOLBY>2 THEN 660
700 ? "WAS DOLBY ON FOR SIDE 1? 1=YES/2=NO":INPUT DOLBY
710 IF DOLBY=1 THEN DOLBY2$="DOLBY ON "
720 IF DOLBY=2 THEN DOLBY2$="DOLBY OFF"
730 IF DOLBY>2 THEN 700
740 ? CHR$(125):? "WHAT IS TAPE BIAS?":?
"1=LOW/2=HIGH/3=CHROME":INPUT BIAS
750 IF BIAS=1 THEN BIAS$="LOW BIAS "
760 IF BIAS=2 THEN BIAS$="HIGH BIAS"
770 IF BIAS=3 THEN BIAS$="CHROME  "
780 IF BIAS>3 THEN 740
790 RETURN
800 ? CHR$(125):POSITION 10,0:?"CASSETTE LABELER"
810 ? :?
820 ? :? "This program will print out a label   for your music,
spoken word, or"
830 ? "computer cassette tape."
840 ? :? "The instructions should provide you   with all you need
to use this program."
850 ? "Here are a few hints before starting"
860 ? :? " 1) If you want to use a heavier   paper (which
is advised) put it"
870 ? "   in the printer now."
880 ? " 2) You can make 12 entries (each 64   characters in
length).":
890 ? " If you   have more than 12 entries,   try
putting several on one line."
900 ? :? "IF YOU ARE READY ENTER '1'"
910 INPUT GO:IF GO=1 THEN RETURN
920 GOTO 900
930 P=PEEK(195):IF P=138 THEN ? CHR$(125):? "TURN PRINTER ON AND
STANDBY!":FOR E=1 TO 1200:NEXT E:GOTO 30
940 GOTO 40

```

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MAIL ORDER BLUES

by: Chester Hadley

As most of you know, I had a bad experience with B&C ComputerVision in Santa Clara CA. After being called a "screwball" by Cathy Carso, who is the Manager (?) and part owner of the store, I attempted to give them another chance to cultivate better customer relations.

While visiting relatives in Oakland, I took the morning of July 31st and drove about 75 miles, round trip, to return the merchandise they sent which was not ordered. At the time I was still willing to keep the "remote Controller" and anticipating additional purchases.

As soon as I introduced myself Cathy took off and gave me little opportunity to say anything. She let me know that she/they were too busy to care about my personal problems pertaining to my daughter placing the order. She also let me know in no uncertain terms that I was totally out of line by even suggesting anything about running their business and they resented my sending a two page letter to them. During the whole visit I tried to be and act as pleasant as possible and open to reason but she failed to ever settle down and act reasonable. She even went so far as to insult me further by discrediting my comments that "I try to be honest, fair and try to give people the benefit of the doubt".

I decided there was no use to continue so I said I was going to return the Controller that was not ordered. I went to the car, got the controller and asked that she credit my VISA account for the amount. Cathy over reacted and wrote out a credit for the entire amount. I told her I only wanted to return the controller and didn't have the rest of the order. She said it was impossible to rewrite the credit and to send the other items back. Well instead of leaving then and letting them try and get back the other items, I took the entire credit and paid cash for the balance.

When I asked Cathy if the way she responded to me was "Professional" she told me they are "not professional". Which to me is quite an understatement. They are a family run business, they are very busy with a two week backlog and they don't have the time or interest to deal any further with me or others like me.

Against my better judgement I waited to talk with the other Carso who Cathy said "is more friendly". That conversation was also a bust. He told me too that it was none of my business how they run their business and that I was waisting his time. They were happy with their repeat customers from this area and were not interested in my repeat business.

I can only pass on to the rest of you that I can not and

We should show our consideration toward these people and ease their workload by withholding our business and giving our business to someone who really needs the money.

If you have been puzzled by what you have seen, I hope this will help you to get the picture. As I stated at the last meeting, my favorite movie is....



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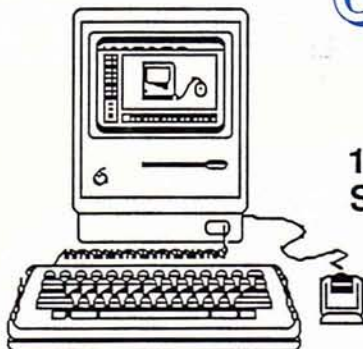
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The Disk of the Month

+

Year's Office

Nominations for Next

At the September meeting:

NEW HEIGHTS!



SOAR TO

VOL III, ISSUE IX

14 September 1987

A user group dedicated to Atari computers

THE ATARI FEDERATION

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